

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
May 10, 2004**

The Williamsburg City Council held a work session on May 10, 2004, at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Stryker Building.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present were Ms. Zeidler, Messrs. Haulman, Scruggs, and Tabb. Also present were City Manager Tuttle, City Attorney Phillips, and City Clerk Crist. Mr. Houghland was absent because he was out of town.

Staff Attending: Department Heads Nester, Serra, Walentisch, and Assistant City Manager Miller.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Zeidler called the meeting to order.

**Open Forum**

**David Kranbuehl, 201 Harrison Avenue**, addressed Council regarding residential neighborhoods. He read his prepared statement (see attached). He suggested four steps to be taken in an expeditious manner. Enforcement of existing ordinances and a zero tolerance policy, establish a homeowners association to encourage and assist the return of home-owner occupied dwellings, expand the homeowners association to include all the homes in the entire neighborhood, and formation of a ad hoc task force with a balanced composition from the city, college, homeowners, and students.

Mr. Kranbuehl recognized Mr. Tabb for his service to the community and to his constituency.

Mayor Zeidler thanked Mr. Kranbuehl. Council will consider the issues and ideas that were recommended at their next City Council retreat.

No one else wished to speak. The session was closed.

**BACKGROUND PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION**

**Southern Inn Redevelopment Progress Report**

Reference for this item was Mr. Tuttle's report dated May 5, 2004, which included a copy of Dr. McLaughlin's progress report. At the January meeting, Council authorized the City Manager to engage the service of Dr. John McLaughlin for the purpose of facilitating conversations with various stakeholders and the community at-large regarding the redevelopment of the Southern Inn property. Mr. Tuttle reported that the study process is not yet complete, and he suggested that Council defer this matter at the Thursday Council meeting to allow Dr. McLaughlin additional time to complete his report.

Mayor Zeidler said that she and Ms. Miller meet with Dr. McLaughlin regarding his progress. Dr. McLaughlin will compile his findings and review the information with the community before completing the final report of his findings in mid to late June.

Update on Richmond Road Reconstruction: Mr. Tuttle said that the reconstruction of Richmond Road from Brooks Street to Bypass Road has been delayed. Recent bids came in at \$2 Million over estimate. City staff and VDOT have met to discuss the costs. Increasing asphalt prices could have caused the high estimates, and it was hoped that the next bid process results in better prices. This is projected as a 24-month project and the goal is to complete it before 2007.

### **Changes to Proposed FY 2005 Budget**

Reference for this item was Mr. Tuttle's report dated May 6, 2004. Mr. Tuttle said the budget is on the Thursday agenda for final adoption. He reviewed the changes in revenue and expenditures for a balanced budget. No funds will be required from reserves to balance the budget. It is possible that the budget will need revision after adoption because of the school funding, and it is planned to discuss the funding at the June 10 meeting with a possible revision to the FY 2005 budget.

Council members concurred that the tax rate would remain \$.54 per \$100. Mr. Haulman noted that the tax rate couldn't be cut without considering what services or quality citizens are willing to do without.

Council members and Mr. Tuttle discussed the proposed sidewalks on Capitol Landing Road. The sidewalks are in the FY 2007 CIP, but it was hoped that as development projects are completed on the road, sidewalks could be installed sooner. Mr. Tuttle reviewed other sidewalk projects in the CIP for FY 2006 and FY 2007. Mr. Nester noted that the current Comprehensive Plan includes a map of sidewalk improvements, as will the new Comp Plan. The CIP prioritizes the sidewalk projects, not the Comp Plan. Council members concurred that they would continue to look for an earlier opportunity to construct the sidewalk on Capitol Landing Road.

Council members and Mr. Tuttle discussed the Heritage Humane Society's new shelter project. The city has committed to provide the land for the shelter and to fund the Stormwater management. Mr. Tuttle reported that HHS is working to get their funding together. The city has committed \$128,000 to the project. The city is supportive of this public/private partnership for the benefit of the community. Any additional funding needed by HHS may be considered in the future, but not at this time.

Mayor Zeidler said Council would adopt the budget at the May 13 meeting.

**Post Election Verbal Report—Dave Andrews, Voter Registrar** Mr. Andrews provided Council members with a copy of his report entitled "Summary of May 4, 2004 City Council Election—New Voting Machines" (see attached). Mr. Andrews reported that the new voting machines worked flawlessly. Results were easily obtained. Voters were asked to complete a survey developed by the registrar's office and Board of Elections to obtain feedback on the new equipment. Most responses were favorable and voters felt comfortable with the new machines. The Electoral Board will recommend that the new machines be purchased in the next fiscal year. Voter turnout was 30.34% city wide, with the most voters being in the 66+ age group.

Council members thanked Mr. Andrews for his report, and thanked him and the Electoral Board for running a smooth election.

Council members and Mr. Andrews discussed removing inactive voters from the city rolls, training of election officers, and verifying election results. Mr. Haulman commented that he does not have a lot of confidence in the computerized voting machines, especially in the case of a recount.

### **2004-2006 City Council Transition Plan**

Reference for this item was Mr. Tuttle's report dated May 6, 2004. Mr. Tuttle reviewed the transition plan calendar. This year, there is not a conflict in dates for the Newly Elected Officials Conference and the July Council meeting. Council members should contact Ms. Crist if they wish to attend. Council orientation will be held the third week in July.

### **Preview of City Council Meeting: May 13, 2004**

No additional information was requested.

### **City Council Communications**

Proposed Performing Arts Center at Third High School: Mayor Zeidler reported that she received a memorandum from Sanford Wanner, Jackson Tuttle, and Carol Beers, recommending that before the performing arts center discussion with the schools go much further, and if the governing bodies and School Board want to pursue the idea, an update of the 1998 Webb Associates Study be conducted. The cost of the update (approximately \$30,000) would be split 50/50 between the County and City. However, Walt Zaremba, Supervisor from York County, offered that York County might wish to help with the study.

Council member concurred that further discussion with the partners move forward about possible update of the study. Mayor Zeidler will give the suggestions from the Williamsburg Area Performing Arts Committee for the Scope of Work to Mr. Tuttle for review.

Strawberry Plains Redevelopment Project: Mr. Haulman reported that the project is going well. This is a great opportunity to purchase a home (owner-occupied) in the City of Williamsburg.

### **Schedule of Meetings: May 2004**

Mr. Tuttle noted the following events:

May 26: Comprehensive Plan Public Forum

May 21, 22, 23: Festival Williamsburg

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Tabb Moved that City Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussing one personnel matter per subparagraph 1 concerning appointments to Boards and Commissions. The Motion Was Seconded by Mr. Haulman.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, and Tabb

No: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

At 3:26 p.m., Council met in Open Session.

Mr. Tabb Moved the Certification of Closed Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Haulman.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Zeidler, Scruggs, and Tabb

No: None

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Date: May 10, 2004

Motion: Mr. Tabb Second: Mr. Haulman

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Williamsburg has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Williamsburg hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the City of Williamsburg.

VOTE:

Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, Tabb

No: None

Absent During Vote: Mr. Houghland

Absent During Meeting: Mr. Houghland

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Approved: June 10, 2004

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Shelia Y. Crist  
Clerk of Council

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Jeanne Zeidler  
Mayor